

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for fabricating a buried strap,
comprising the steps of:

- 5 forming a dielectric collar along sidewalls of a
trench, the trench formed in a substrate;
 filling the trench with a conductive material;
 recessing the conductive material in the trench to
expose a portion of the collar;
 depositing a masking layer in the trench over the
10 exposed portion of the collar;
 removing a portion of the masking layer over one
side of the collar;
 etching a portion of the collar on the one side;
and
15 forming a buried strap on the conductive material,
which connects to the substrate on the one side.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
masking layer includes nitride.

20 3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the
step of removing a portion of the masking layer includes
patterning a cut mask for etching the masking layer.

4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of removing a portion of the masking layer includes the steps of:

forming a polysilicon layer over the trench;

5 doping and oxidizing the polysilicon layer in

~~predetermined~~ areas;

removing the polysilicon layer in other than the

~~predetermined~~ areas; and

etching the masking layer ~~the~~ in accordance with
10 the ~~predetermined~~ areas.

5. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of forming isolation trenches in communication with the trench.

6. The method as recited in claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

oxidizing surfaces within the isolation trenches;

lining the isolation trenches with a nitride

20 layer;

filling the isolation trenches with a dielectric material.

7. The method as recited in claim 6, further
25 comprising the steps of:

protecting portions of the nitride layer in communication with the trench during the step of removing a portion of the masking layer by employing surfaces oxidized in the step of oxidizing surfaces.

5

8. The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the step of oxidizing surfaces includes forming an oxide between about 70 angstroms to about 90 angstroms in thickness.

10

9. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of forming a buried strap includes the steps of:

depositing a buried strap conductor in the trench;
and

etching back the buried strap conductor.

15

10. A method for fabricating a one-sided buried strap, comprising the steps of:

forming a dielectric collar along sidewalls of a trench, the trench formed in a substrate;

20

filling the trench with a conductive material;

etching isolation trenches in communication with the trench;

oxidizing surfaces within the isolation trenches;

lining the isolation trenches with a nitride

25

layer;

filling the isolation trenches with a dielectric material;

recessing the conductive material in the trench to expose a portion of the collar;

5 depositing a masking layer in the trench over the exposed portion of the collar;

removing a portion of the masking layer over one side of the collar;

etching a portion of the collar on the one side;

10 and

forming a buried strap on the one side.

11. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the masking layer includes nitride.

15

12. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the step of removing a portion of the masking layer includes patterning a cut mask for etching the masking layer.

20

13. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the step of removing a portion of the masking layer includes the steps of:

forming a polysilicon layer over the trench;

doping and oxidizing the polysilicon layer in

25

~~predetermined~~ areas;

removing the polysilicon layer in other than the
~~predetermined~~ areas; and

etching the masking layer ~~the~~ in accordance with
 the ~~predetermined~~ areas.

5

14. The method as recited in claim 10, further
 comprising the steps of:

protecting portions of the nitride layer in
 communication with the trench during the step of removing a
 portion of the masking layer by employing surfaces oxidized
 in the step of oxidizing surfaces.

10

15. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein
 the step of oxidizing surfaces includes forming an oxide
 between about 70 angstroms to about 90 angstroms in
 thickness.

15

16. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein
 the step of forming a buried strap includes the steps of:

20

depositing a buried strap conductor in the trench;
 and

etching back the buried strap conductor.

25